



This hypothetical calculation relies on data for Butte copper production obtained from the Butte Archives (1908-1949) and US Bureau of Mines/US Geological Survey Mineral Yearbook and Minerals Resources of the U.S. reports (1950-1986). A few unknown years were calculated to increase smoothly between known years (1883-1889, 1984) and all production since 1987 was averaged over the corresponding time period to preserve taxpayer confidentiality. Production values for 1882 and 1890 were obtained from State website historical highlights.

Prices are primarily from the US Geological Survey. Moody's AAA corporate bond yield is used for 1919 - 2014; approximated averages of US 10-year Treasury bond rates for 1890-1918.

This analysis assumes a 10% production tax on total copper value (price×production) of 10%. The trust diversion percentage is applied to the hypothetical production tax. All interest earnings are assumed to be appropriated.